



LISA M. LEONDIS
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/
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County of San Diego

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WEIGHTS & MEASURES
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August 10, 2012

Dear San Diego County Farmers and Ranchers:

A recent change by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) created a FAST-TRACK program for disaster designation. This process provides nearly automatic approval of disaster funding in counties with certain drought intensity levels.

As a result of FAST-TRACK, on July 12, 2012, the USDA granted a disaster designation for Riverside County as a primary county and San Diego County as a contiguous county.

This designation means that you:

1. May apply for emergency funding if you purchased crop insurance and experienced production losses during the drought incident between February 21 and May 14, 2012.
2. May be eligible for low interest emergency loans from USDA's Farm Service Agency.

If you feel you may qualify for this funding, contact the Farm Service Agency office at: United States Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, 430 G Street, Suite 4161, Davis, CA 95616-4161 or (530) 792-5520. USDA's website contains additional information: www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/disaster/assistance.htm. Click on "Disaster Assistance Programs."

The deadline for applying for these programs is March 12, 2013.

San Diego County may qualify for future assistance as a primary county if the average crop loss to a single crop type, due to this drought incident, is 30% or greater countywide. While we hope this is not the case, please contact us at the phone number or email address below if you believe you have experienced any single crop loss of 30% or more. To verify the loss we will request information from you regarding the commodity, acres/head lost, the value lost and your total planned yield and the yield after crop loss for the 2012 season.

If you have any questions about this matter, or if you have experienced a crop loss of 30% or more from this drought incident, please contact Sandy Parks at (858) 614-7702 or by email sandy.parks@sdcounty.ca.gov

Sincerely,

LISA LEONDIS
Agricultural Commissioner/
Sealer of Weights and Measures

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